

The Commons

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THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE ON RURAL SOCIAL PROGRESS.

This meeting, which was in form a joint session between the Michigan Political Science Association and the Michigan Farmers' Institute, and in spirit a conference of all who are interested in rural life, for discussing rural progress, was held February 25-28 at the Agricultural College, near Lansing, Mich.

FINE PERSONNEL OF AUDIENCE.

The aim had been to bring together not only farmers representing the various agricultural organizations of the State, but pastors of country churches, rural teachers, county commissioners of schools, etc. The farmers were there, hundreds of them; but the other classes were not so well represented, which was, in fact, the one disappointment of the meeting.

Several of the speakers remarked privately upon the earnestness and intelligence of the audience. And well they might, for the farmers present were a body of picked men and women, most of them members of the Grange, or farmers' clubs, and representing nearly every agricultural county in Michigan. The students and faculty of the Agricultural College and several members of the University faculty helped to make an exceedingly fine audience.

We shall not attempt to report the last half of the meeting, which was devoted to technical farm topics, such as sugar beets, etc. There were five sessions in the joint meeting proper, and an endeavor was made to cover the economic, the educational, the social, and religious interests of the farmer.

We give no apology for making considerable use in this report of the exceedingly well-written and appreciative report of the meeting which appeared in the M. A. C. Record, the official paper of the Agricultural College.

THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

This topic was handled in an able paper by President J. L. Snyder, of the Agricultural College. Dr. Snyder defined industrial education to mean technical training for industry. After giving a brief history of the land-grant colleges, which have originated in the last half century, and which fully embody the idea of industrial education, Dr. Snyder proceeded to show the direct

connection between national progress and technical training. "No nation," said he, "can afford to import articles which her own artisans can manufacture." The excellence of goods offered is directly dependent on the training of these artisans. England's commerce began to fall off as soon as the articles she exported were found to be inferior in quality to those made elsewhere. Superiority is brought about only by application of science to the processes of manufacture. Mr. Carnegie was the first man to employ a trained chemist in connection with the management of a blast furnace. Rapidly in every department of industry a corps of trained specialists has been added as an indispensable part of the working force, to direct processes, to improve methods, to solve problems of handling, and to discover new properties and invent new uses for by-products. "It is the young, technically trained men that are causing this country to forge ahead. It is impossible to exaggerate their importance to the industrial development of the country. Thus, for instance, dairy schools have been of immense utility to certain sections of the country. In Wisconsin, as the result of dairy instruction, the dairy interests of the State have increased 25 per cent."

The increased value of the product turned out is still more important than the quantity. Here Dr. Snyder indicated the great work that the agricultural experiment stations have done. He showed how the Babcock test for securing the actual amount of butter fat in the milk has improved the quality of the dairy herd, how the beautiful fruit orchards of the Michigan west shore are due to the invention of spraying as a method of fighting destructive insects and fungi; how the beet-sugar industry originated in the work of the experiment stations.

President Snyder noted the wonderful industrial progress of Germany in recent years, and recalled the fact that this success is generally attributed to Germany's splendid system of industrial education.

PROF. HENRY C. ADAMS, ON "HIGHER EDUCATION
AND THE PEOPLE."

He spoke of the fact that Michigan has given to "education" a very comprehensive meaning, including not only the technical and general education of the school, the college, and the university, but the idea of popular education as well, as illustrated in our system of farmers' institutes.

Professor Adams emphasized the idea that the work of research carried on by the faculties of colleges and universities should always be included in the term "higher education," for such an institution must extend knowledge as well as impart it.

The topic was treated from the point of view: (1) Of those who seek an education; (2) of those who utilize the services of trained men; (3) of the political, social and industrial conditions which are in large measure the product of these higher institutions.

From the first standpoint not much can be said, because it is not a social viewpoint; yet so much does prosperity of one class depend on that of other classes that the personal point of view is not the true one. It is worth noting, however, that in Michigan the highest in education lies open and practically free to all. Nothing is more democratic than our educational system.

From the second point of view we note that the expert is in the saddle. Yet, though the motive that leads a man to become an expert may be personal advantage, his services extend to the public at large. Moreover, you cannot produce an expert unless you raise the general plane of excellence and efficiency of the whole class to which the expert belongs. Professor Adams instanced the physician as an illustration of this fact. For instance, diphtheria used to be extremely virulent. One case out of every two was the rate of mortality. Now the rate is one in ten, as the result of the education of a class of experts and their valuable investigations. So the people at large are more interested in having experts than is the individual expert himself. His interest is in being a little bit better than his competitors; the public's interest is in having a body of expert knowledge at its service.

From the third point of view Professor Adams suggested, first, the fact that industrial prosperity depends not only upon natural resources and security of property and contract, but upon invention as well. And modern invention is not the product of chance and ingenuity, but of professional work. That business men appreciate the importance of trained intelligence in commercial affairs is shown by their interest in our university course in higher commercial education. Take, again, the wonderful changes in rural life that are promised through the advent of the telephone and trolley line. The electrical expert, the trained investigator, will some time be praised for having made these things possible.

And finally let it be said that the worth of life does not depend upon conditions, but rather upon a high grade of intelligence; and the higher insti-

tutions are, or should be, the guardians of this intelligence. Indeed, the schools, and the churches, too, for that matter, should perform wider functions than they do. We are drowned in commercialism. We can meet it only by keeping open the door of opportunity, and this must come through our higher institutions of learning.

This topic was vigorously discussed by Professor H. R. Pattengill, who emphasized roundly the need of keeping the culture aim in education to the front.

Professor Charles H. Cooley, of Michigan University, read a valuable paper on the subject of

THE MOVEMENT OF RURAL POPULATION, which he modestly entitled, "Notes on the Decrease of Rural Population in the Southern Peninsula of Michigan." Dr. Cooley called attention to the well-known fact that the proportion of urban population in our country has rapidly and constantly increased, being 4 per cent. in 1800; in 1880, 22.6; in 1890, 29.2; in 1900, 33.1. In Michigan the figures are: For 1880, 16.6 per cent.; in 1890, 31.2; in 1900, 37.2. In both cases the percentage of increase was less in the last decade.

This method of comparison is not wholly fair, because the census sets a lower limit of 8,000 to "cities," and a large number of towns are constantly breaking over that line and so coming all at once to be reckoned as urban. If we take the growth of 161 cities now having 25,000 people or more, we find that the aggrandizement of cities is not so alarming as is sometimes supposed, nor so rapid as it was some time ago; also it is true that moderate-sized cities are increasing as rapidly as the big cities.

Nevertheless, the general fact is that the population of settled rural districts in the Northern States is actually diminishing, and has been for twenty-five years. It may not be generally known that the census of 1890 showed that about 66 per cent. of the area of Illinois diminished in population from 1880 to 1890, while in Iowa the percentage of decrease was 43, in Ohio 61, in New York 83, in Michigan 27—the Michigan figure being due to the fact that previous to 1880 there was little agriculture except in the lower half of the southern peninsula.

Now, going behind the census figures and studying Michigan especially, we find that twenty-three of the twenty-eight counties in the four southern tiers of the State show between '80 and '90 diminutions of rural population. The five counties forming the exceptions are Kent, Allegan, Ottawa, Wayne, and Berrien. North of this line only one county, Montcalm, showed a decrease in that decade. Between 1890 and 1900 the four southern

tiers still show a decrease, all but six having fallen off. Ottawa, Wayne, and Berrien still show an increase; Kent and Allegan have fallen off, while three new counties, Ionia, Van Buren, and Monroe, have increased. Dr. Cooley thinks that the gains are due to special causes, which can in general be classed as intensive agriculture, causing smaller farms.

Ten counties in four lower tiers show a diminution of population even with the towns reckoned in. Monroe is unique, as there the rural population has increased, while the towns Monroe and Dundee have fallen off.

North of the row containing Kent, Montcalm continued to lose in rural population in the last decade, and several other counties are added to the list of losers, viz.: Mecosta, Newaygo, and Lake. Oscoda, Crawford, and Roscommon. The towns of Tawas, Oscoda, St. Ignace, Ludington, Muskegon, and even Saginaw have lost somewhat, while the counties Iosco, Mackinaw, Mason, Muskegon, and Saginaw have increased.

The growth or decline of small rural villages is of some interest. Of 165 incorporated places in Michigan having a population of less than 1,000 in 1890, 101 gained during the past decade, 63 fell off and one remained unchanged.

A special study in Washtenaw county shows marked decrease in the exclusively rural township.

The reasons for this diminution of rural population are not moral or social, but economic: (1) improvement of farm machinery, enabling the same work to be done with one-half or one-third the number of hands; and (2) facility of transportation and communication, enabling trade and manufactures to concentrate in the large towns.

Indications are that the diminution will not continue. Figures show the movement to be slowing up. Farming is becoming more intensive. If there is anything in political economy we must be about to enter upon a period of higher land values and more thorough cultivation. The attractiveness of country life is increasing with electric roads, good country roads, the bicycle, the telephone, and rural mail delivery.

CHANGES DEMANDED IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF RURAL COMMUNITIES.

In a vigorous address the Hon. L. D. Harvey, Superintendent of Public Instruction of Wisconsin, fully convinced his auditors that the present rural school is inadequate to the needs of country pupils. In the first place, we find here the smallest schools—and the small school is a dead school. Hundreds of Wisconsin schools have but five, eight, ten pupils. The existence of the small school leads to a second great evil—that of the poor teacher. The authorities say, we have such a small school

that we can't afford a high-priced teacher. So they get a cheap teacher and usually have a cheap school.

Now, these two conditions are fatal, and reform must begin here. We must first wipe out of existence the small school. The only way to do this is by consolidating the small districts into larger districts, abolishing the small school and transporting the pupils at public expense to and from school. Some farmers say it can't be done, but it is being done satisfactorily in many places.

As to the poor teacher: When we have the centralized school we pay better wages and can demand and secure better teachers. We have larger and more interesting schools, and teachers catch the inspiration. But, more than that, we need better training for our teachers. There are in Wisconsin seven good normal schools, yet scarcely a rural teacher in the State is a graduate of such a school. How can we change this condition? The Wisconsin plan is to organize a county training school for teachers. Two such schools have been in operation two years and are supplying enough graduates each year to fill all the vacancies in the rural schools. Six such schools will be in operation next fall.

Another demand upon rural education is to provide some means for carrying the children farther than they do. Practically all the pupils now are mere children—twelve years old or younger. Nor are the older children attending village and city schools in any large numbers. Not over 4 per cent. of the country school enrollment are pupils in higher schools.

Another demand is for an education that will lead boys and girls to a successful, happy, intelligent farm life. Superintendent Harvey does not think the movement to put the teaching of the elements of agriculture into the primary schools is likely to succeed. But he advocates county agricultural schools. Two such schools will be opened in Wisconsin this fall. They will take boys and girls from the country schools and give them two years of practical work, teaching the boys elements of agriculture, about soil and its properties, stock breeding and feeding, etc. And there will be courses for girls in cooking, sewing, and home-making. The schools will give a training intended for practical use, but it will be of a character and value that will make such schools good places for anybody's children. The schools will become centers of agricultural interest in the county and will serve as local experiment stations.

"So, to sum up the thoughts I leave with you for the improvement of our rural education, first, consolidation of schools; second, transportation of pupils; third, the county training school for

teachers; fourth, the county agricultural school. I do not claim that these movements will solve the problem, but I do claim they are helpful, and that they can be done, for they are being done."

THE RURAL SCHOOL PROBLEM IN MICHIGAN was presented by Prof. Delos Fall, Superintendent of Public Instruction of Michigan. He urged a liberal education for the country boy.

This liberal education he defined as a good high school education. "The demands on our children," said he, "will be those of the middle of the twentieth century, and a high school education is the very least equipment we can afford to furnish them with to meet these demands."

Professor Fall then presented his argument on expense. For only one-sixth of the country pupils the farmers are paying in non-resident tuition to high schools \$88,000. Add to this for transportation, extra clothing, board, and books, an average expense of not less than \$100 per year per pupil, and you get a large sum. Suppose we cut this in two and allow \$50 to sustain a pupil one year at a city high school. Multiply the 17,000 non-residents by 50 and you get \$850,000. Add to this the \$88,000 and we have nearly one million dollars, if you add also the school tax paid at home. This sum alone would suffice to maintain the country high school at your own home.

Then consider how far no added expense the high school would be brought within reach of the other five-sixths not here reckoned in.

Another advantage would be the change in the character of the high school. The city school attempts impossible things. It does not serve its purpose.

We must have radical changes in the city high school, and the rural high school will be the means of bringing about a nearer approach to the ideal of true education. The rural high school will be of such a nature that the non-resident tuition will go in the opposite direction from that now found.

Superintendent Fall emphasized the necessity for consolidation shown by Mr. Harvey, giving examples from his own experience. Of eight districts in Berrien county, none had an attendance of over thirteen; one registered six pupils. The average was eight.

Professor Fall stated that his ambition is to be known as a strenuous advocate of the policy of providing the opportunity for a high school education for every boy and girl in Michigan, especially in the country.

THE GROWTH OF FORESTRY SENTIMENT.

"The Forestry Question" was the subject for an entire session. In the absence of Hon. Gifford Pinchot, of Washington, Professor George B. Sud-

worth, of the United States Bureau of Forestry, read a paper on the growth of forestry sentiment in this country, of early attempts to accomplish something definite in this line, and described at length the present large plans and thoroughly scientific methods of the Department of Agriculture in forestry work.

The problem of forestry as related to Michigan was discussed by Hon. E. A. Wildey and Hon. Charles W. Garfield, members of the State Forestry Commission; by Professor C. A. Davis, of the newly established Department of Forestry in the University of Michigan; and by Dr. A. C. Lane, State Geologist.

Mr. Wildey explained what the commission was doing in the matter of a forest reserve. This reserve consists of 47,000 acres in twelve townships in Crawford and Rosecommon counties. In it are the headwaters of the most important river system in the State, 700 to 800 feet above the level of the lakes, and hence most important for water power. The rivers are the Thunder Bay, the Au Sable, the Tittabawassee, the Muskegon, and the Manistee. He showed the importance of such reserves through the present condition of the Kalamazoo River—much shallower and more variable than in former years. The commission has still comparatively little power to control these reserves. It is desired that the people be educated to demand larger control from the legislature. To show what can be done in a comparatively short time he showed a section from a cottonwood tree grown on a huckleberry marsh in 25 years. The tree was 81 feet high and 36 feet to the first limb. It grew in thick timber.

Professor C. A. Davis pointed out that one-sixth of the area of the State is now held for delinquent taxes and is worse than idle. It is a menace to other property, and is wholly unproductive.

Mr. Garfield said that it is worth while to grow timber on poor land, and the commission is trying to set an example on its reserves. We must make these six million acres of delinquent land produce something. The millionaires should endow pieces of land where nature can grow forests and manage them. The people should stand by the Forestry Commission in its efforts to solve this problem.

In the discussion, which was the most animated and interesting ever seen in Michigan on this subject of forestry, it was brought out that the Carolina poplar would produce in fifteen or sixteen years seven feet in circumference four feet from the ground; that it cost the State yearly \$66,367 to advertise these delinquent lands; that a tree

planted begins very soon to yield money return in the shade for stock, the shade increasing the flow of milk in the dairy herd; that the State encourages planting trees on the road by an allowance on the road tax; and that in eighteen years sugar maples will yield returns in sap.

THE NEED AND POSSIBILITIES OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

This subject was treated in a paper by Hon. George B. Horton, master of the State Grange. It may be of interest to know that under Mr. Horton's ten years of leadership the Grange in Michigan has grown in number of Granges from a little over 200 to nearly 500, and from about 10,000 members to some 27,000.

Mr. Horton very earnestly emphasized the need for farmers' organizations on the basis (1) of the maintaining of a sufficiently high standard of social attainment to make and keep the farmer the peer of the best of our people; (2) of an intellectual training for his business and for the exigencies of public affairs; (3) of knowledge of the business and markets of the world such as will enable him to obtain more of the possibilities and enjoyments of life; (4) of such influence upon the body politic as will banish fraud, and encourage legislation that gives the greatest good to the greatest number. The farmers constitute 40 per cent. of our population and should have proportionate influence in legislation. Nor should such influence be feared, for the farmer is by nature patriotic, conservative, and wise.

Mr. Horton described how the Grange seeks to secure these ends and how it works out its principle. He also paid a tribute to the farmers' clubs and stated that these two farmers' organizations are working in harmony and for common ends. They are in no sense partisan bodies, being very careful not to get involved in political quarrels. Nor do they meddle with sectarian questions, though their influence is for better morals.

Mr. Horton, however, does not favor the centralization of schools as advocated by Superintendents Harvey and Fall, and took occasion to present very vigorously the other side of the case. He thinks the movement for centralization is likely to destroy interest among rural people in their schools and to be more expensive than the present plan.

THE CHURCH AS A CENTER OF RURAL ORGANIZATION.

This subject was assigned to Graham Taylor and the M. A. C. Record reports it as follows:

"One of the most remarkable addresses of the whole meeting was delivered by Graham Taylor, professor in Chicago Theological Seminary, and of Chicago Commons Social Settlement. He

spoke from a conviction born of direct, living contact with the most hopeless problems of social life.

"Dr. Taylor commenced by denouncing the 'fatal facility with which men forget the purpose and reason for the existence of established institutions.' The institutionalism which substitutes means for ends and subverts the ends in slavishly serving the means is the very insanity of history. Examples were found in commercialism, which, substituting competition for co-operation, sacrifices the many to the few and brings about the death of trade; in the schools and universities, which, making knowledge an end instead of a means and apotheosizing culture for culture's sake, fail to minister to the life of the people. Next in meanness to an aristocracy of wealth is an aristocracy of intellect too often prevalent among half-cultivated people who 'fall short of knowing enough to know what is yet to be known.'"

Dr. Taylor then traced the history of the church, which seeks to build itself up out of a community instead of seeking to build up the community out of itself, thus creating the paradox of a community of Christians not being a Christian community.

"Dr. Taylor then traced the history of the church, beginning in New England, as the center of every community, and of its whole life. He showed now the problem had been changed by immigration and migration, until the country church was left to one side of the stream of human activity, cut off from the masses (1) by the diversity of language; (2) by diversity of traditions; (3) by multiplicity of sects. Forty-four per cent. of forty and more townships in Vermont (Vermont, the most American of all the States) never go to church, while in that same State the churches were spending \$1.50 for each man, woman, and child of the population.

"Country life suffers from lack of social life. This it is the church's function to provide. It should have (1) a vision of its social functions; (2) a far-sighted view of denominationalism; (3) a power of generating public spirit, the spirit of cross-bearing.

"In discussing these social functions Dr. Taylor insisted that the church should master the facts to be dealt with. In this connection he showed two charts made by young preachers (one in a city, the other in the country), recording the actual facts of the neighborhood—recording, for instance, the number of people in each block (2,500 inhabitants in one block on one map), the location of each saloon, etc. He showed the varying methods of real service by which the saloon appeals to its community, the educative position

of the theaters in the slums, etc., etc. "We must get more worldly, not less so."

"He laid great emphasis on the evils of denominationalism, showing the demand for centralization. "The division of the forces of righteousness is the greatest bar to progress. We can't pray alike, but we can have the co-operative unity of the spirit." The final test of the usefulness of the church is the attitude of denominations toward each other.

Without Professor Taylor's permission we want to quote a comment from the Michigan Farmer, of Detroit:

"Dr. Graham Taylor, of Chicago, easily carried off the palm as the most entertaining orator on the whole meeting in his address upon the above theme. His clear understanding of the economic principles of educational, social, and political organizations and institutions appealed strongly to the appreciation of the representative farmers and taxpayers to whom he spoke."

K. L. Butterfield and R. L. Melendy discussed the subjects of the afternoon.

DEPENDENCE OF AGRICULTURE ON TRANSPORTATION.

Judge Prouty, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, had this theme, and his vigorous condemnation of modern railway methods as to freight-rate making was fully appreciated by the audience of farmers. Judge Prouty said that "among the factors of great interest to this country the farmer stands first, the railroad second." He then proceeded to show the relations between these factors. "The railroad," he said, "determines the profit to the farmer of his commodity. As an illustration of this point, the statement was made that one dollar a ton has been charged by the railroads for transporting hay from Michigan to Boston. This being an excessive rate, makes the raising of hay by the Michigan farmer, for transportation, unprofitable. Again, by reason of a just freight rate, Nebraska creameries can compete in the Lowell, Mass., markets with those of St. Albans, Vt. Hence freight rates determine prosperity. The farmer, unlike other classes, cannot combine. He is at the mercy of corporations."

The speaker referred to the combination effected by the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Burlington roads. Seventy-five per cent of the business of the first two named is competitive. By combination a higher rate will be charged and poorer service rendered, although the promoters claim that the freight rates will be lowered. It stands to reason that combination is brought about for the increasing of revenues. Revenues are increased by higher rates, not by increase in

business or by decrease in expenses. "Law," said the speaker, "is powerless to prevent combination, but it can adjudge rates and can do so because the railroad is a public servant."

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE FARM.

Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson made his first address before a body of Michigan farmers, with the above topic as his theme. He explained clearly and fully the leading functions and the methods of the department. Probably many intelligent people have not the slightest notion of the great strides the department has been making and the great work it is doing. It is impossible to give in limited space an adequate resume of Secretary Wilson's interesting address.

DEPENDENCE OF AGRICULTURE ON THE HOME MARKET.

Prof. E. D. Jones, who came this year to the University of Michigan to take charge of the courses in higher commercial education, read one of the meatiest papers of the entire program. He discussed the many losses that accrue to society through the exchanging of certain products between distant markets, especially of the raw material. He urged that so far as practicable, communities would work up the raw material and ship as manufactured goods.

As far as the farmer is concerned, the local market is a great factor in stimulating a more extensive agriculture. Local industries not only help the villages, but they help the farmer. He thinks that our country towns can manufacture lace, Hamburg edging, Plauen goods, carved furniture, bric-a-brac, etc. In fruit regions canning factories may be built to absorb the surplus. In natural dairy sections, creameries should be numerous, and the beet sugar industry is a capital illustration of just this sort of union between the prosperity of the town and the development of better and more profitable farming. Almost every village has within it the capacity to make a product that will be admired throughout the country and will make it the Mecca of some craft. The geography of skill, experience, genius and perseverance is not like the geography of coal and iron, and no community need despair of its future. Our villages stagnate with an abundance of unused labor talent. The village is a great unused American force.

CONFERENCES OF FARMERS, TEACHERS AND PASTORS PROVIDED FOR.

A resolution was unanimously adopted asking the officials of the Agricultural College, the Farmers' Institutes and the Political Science

Association, to take steps to organize future conferences, both state and local, where the object shall be to bring together farmers, rural teachers and pastors for the purpose of discussing rural social progress.

Thus it seems quite certain that the fruits of this splendid meeting will not be lost. This is believed to be the first attempt on record to accomplish this federation of rural social agencies, and its promoters are chiefly anxious that it may simply be the forerunner of numerous and better meetings of a similar purpose.

The hearty co-operation of President Snyder, of the Agricultural College, and Prof. C. D. Smith, of Farmers' Institutes, is cordially acknowledged, but the credit for the program belongs chiefly to Prof. H. C. Adams, and the results of the meeting are a tribute to his interest in practical movements.

More than that, the meeting is significant as illustrating the new interest that is being aroused in the rural problem. The papers by Dr. Cooley and Dr. Jones are indications of a mere beginning in a scientific study of rural sociological and economic questions.

The impression that the meeting left upon the audience is also worth noting. The farmers appreciated the idea upon which the program was based and cordially commend it. The professional men present were equally impressed. And it is safe to say that such conferences as these are entirely practicable, if wisely planned and conducted, and there can be no question as to their value.

K. L. B.

THOREAU'S "WALDEN" ESTIMATED BY HOWELLS.

I have not read the story of his hermitage beside Walden Pond since the year 1858, but I have a fancy that if I should take it up now, I would think it a wiser and truer conception of the world than I thought it then. It is no solution of the problem; men are not going to answer the riddle of the painful earth by building themselves shanties and living upon beans and watching ant-fights; but I do not believe Tolstoy himself has more clearly shown the hollowness, the hopelessness, the unworthiness of the life of the world than Thoreau did in that book. If it were newly written it could not fail of a far vaster acceptance than it had then, when to those who thought and felt seriously it seemed that if slavery could only be controlled, all things else would come right of themselves with us. Slavery has not only been controlled, but it has been destroyed, and yet things have not begun to come right with us; but it was in the order of Provi-

dence that chattel slavery should cease before industrial slavery, and the infinitely crueler and stupider vanity and luxury bred of it, should be attacked. If there was then any prevision of the struggle now at hand, the seers averted their eyes, and strove only to cope with the lesser evil. Thoreau himself, who had so clear a vision of the falsity and folly of society as we still have it, threw himself into the tide that was already, in Kansas and Virginia, reddened with war; he aided and abetted the John Brown raid, I do not recall how much or in what sort; and he had suffered in prison for his opinions and actions. It was this inevitable heroism of his that, more than his literature even, made me wish to see him and revere him.—W. D. HOWELLS in "Literary Friends and Acquaintance."

HOW MICHIGAN'S AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE UNIFIES AND ENRICHES RURAL LIFE.

BY C. D. SMITH, DIRECTOR OF THE EXPERIMENT STATION.

The Michigan Agricultural College, nurtured, as it is, alike by the general government and appropriations by the state, does not content itself with the work it does for such young men and women as can leave their own homes for either a four-year course at the college, or for the brief stay necessary to take the special courses. Through the Farmers' Institutes it reaches a large number of farmers once each year, calling the people together in small audiences in the country schoolhouses, grange halls and churches to listen to discussions of agricultural topics and of social topics as well, and to take part in such discussions. One idea followed out in these Institutes is to bring together in harmonious action the various forces now engaged in the betterment of rural life. The Grange and the Farmers' Clubs have their part in the program, in the preparation for the meeting, and in the discussions. The country church is recognized, often by holding the meeting itself in the church, by calling on the pastor to discuss the part played by his local organization in enriching life and suppressing moral turpitude, and by placing on the program topics relating to the relation of the church to the community. The schools are recognized by placing on the program topics relating to rural schools, to be discussed by county superintendents or other school officers, followed by other citizens especially interested in the topic. Finally, in all Institute work, the family is regarded as the unit of society, and

questions relating to home life are taught from every platform; what reading should be found in the home; how to encourage habits of industry in the children; the creation of an ideal other than purely utilitarian, and similar topics give rise to animated discussion at many Institutes.

The round-up or closing Institute of the series is held by the Agricultural College. The railroads express their appreciation of the value of the meetings by granting all Institute workers half-fare rates to all the meetings, and extend the same concession to the public generally in attending the closing Institute. At this Round-up Institute there was held, this year, a joint meeting of the Michigan Political Science Association and the Michigan Farmers' Institutes. The theme was the unification of the forces engaged in the betterment of rural life. The program was heartily received by the host of farmers present. More than one citizen long past middle life and living in an isolated community came to me at the close of the Institute and almost in tears expressed his gratitude that there had been revealed to him aspects of his own life that had theretofore been withheld from him.

The Institute movement is not the sole expression of the extension work of the college. There is organized a system of reading for the country home by which the best books are nominated and means provided for their purchase at low rates. Further, the state, by special appropriation, provides traveling libraries which go to communities where half a dozen apply, and there remain for three months. The number of these libraries now scattered over Michigan is slightly over three hundred. The circulation of the books is very large, and the amount of good accomplished beyond calculation.

The general government furnishes to each state a fund to be spent in performing experiments with farm crops and animals, and studying insects and fungous diseases. That fund goes to the Agricultural College in Michigan, and there are forty thousand families now receiving the bulletins which give the results of the experiments conducted at the college and elsewhere by this fund.

Such are, briefly stated, the various forms of the extension work of the college whereby the institution strives to help adult citizens in their own homes. At the college the young women are trained in household duties, cooking, sewing and domestic science generally, with a strong admixture of domestic art. They are trained to be good wives and good housekeepers at the same

time they are educated in the languages, music and the sciences. Space forbids details, but the import of the movement can scarcely be comprehended by the citizen to whom its very existence is new.

To the young men a training somewhat similar is given, the idea being to train the mind and hand together at the same time that the studies in language, the sciences and the humanities are being pursued.

THE HESPERIA MOVEMENT—ITS ORIGIN AND PURPOSE.

D. E. MCCLURE, CHIEF CLERK, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, LANSING, MICHIGAN.

The movement was organized in the autumn of 1892. The writer, who is a granger, met with the Hesperia Grange and submitted a plan whereby the teachers and grangers of Oceana and Nawaygo counties organized a joint association to meet the second Thursday of the following February. The initial meeting grew out of a correspondence with Mr. and Mrs. Scott, members of the Hesperia Grange, to whom much credit is due in the organization of the Hesperia movement. At Hesperia is a large rink which the owners have made over into an opera house, and in this building the annual meetings of the association are held.

SOCIAL BASIS FOR RURAL IMPROVEMENT.

In my visits as commissioner of schools to the districts of Oceana county, I discovered that in neighborhoods where the rural folk met together for social and intellectual purposes, where there are a few good books circulating through the community, conditions were much better socially and intellectually than in communities where such conditions did not exist.

Oceana county was organized into several districts, each having a local teachers' and patrons' association, each having a lecture course, and through the educational sentiment developed by these associations came the district school library. The Hesperia movement has a larger organization combining Oceana and Nawaygo counties. Hesperia is situated in both counties. The annual meeting occurs in February, commencing usually the second Thursday, and continuing in session until Sunday night. The evening sessions are given up to lectures by distinguished speakers of state and national reputation. The day meetings are employed in addresses, papers and discussions upon subjects pertaining to home, school, farm and civic life, interspersed with music and recitations. On Sunday all village and country folk, together with the stranger "within the gates," attend union meetings at the place of meeting.

"THE BIG MEETING."

When I state the fact that Hesperia is a village of seven hundred souls, situated twelve miles from a railroad, and that I have audiences numbering fifteen hundred interested, inspired people at the "big meeting," there may be some who will doubt, but, doubt, attend the meeting and see for yourself.

Col. Francis W. Parker, now of blessed memory, Dr. Arnold Tompkins, "Will Carleton," Hamilton Wright Mabie, Byron King, Rev. J. Morgan Wood, Principal W. N. Ferris and Hon. H. R. Pattengill, who have addressed the "big meetings," say there is nothing equal to it in America for inspiration, social and civic uplift.

Hon. H. R. Pattengill, the best state superintendent, so far as the rural school interests are concerned, that Michigan ever had, and Principal W. N. Ferris, of the Ferris Industrial School, Big Rapids, helped create educational sentiment which helped on the "big meeting." Mr. Pattengill made twenty-eight and Mr. Ferris thirty-one addresses in the rural lecture courses of Oceana county within the eight years that I was commissioner of schools.

The foundation purpose of the organization was a closer communion, sympathy and co-operation of all the educational elements of the rural communities. As the movement took hold upon community life, the horizon lifted, and libraries for district schools, clean schoolyards and schoolrooms, a larger use for education, a surer and longer tenure of service for teachers, with better wages, a socializing of rural conditions, were stars shining ever in the heavens of hope. These conditions, in some measure, have been realized, and are being realized. The inspiration, the song sung, the oration given at the "big meeting," have sunk too deep into thousands of care-burdened lives to be effaced. Many counties in Michigan have adopted and are adopting the movement, and it has made its way into many states, "has become national," as State Superintendent Fall says.

A CIVIC-CENTER BUILDING NEEDED.

The movement has reached a point now where we need a building which shall be dedicated to the civic, spiritual, intellectual life of the community. A committee, of which Mr. Neal McCalum is chairman, has been appointed to investigate and make recommendations as to such a building.

No extension movement, university or otherwise, will prove adequate to the social, civic, intellectual and spiritual life of rural communities, since the force that socializes must be in

the midst of the community—must be a part of its very life. The extension movement is an admirable means to help raise the level of rural community life. The end to be reached, that we desire to reach by the Hesperia movement, is a building in which may be developed to a high degree the social, civic, spiritual and intellectual life of the community. This factor in community life is not intended to displace any church or secret fraternal organization, but is one around which all parties, all creeds, all societies, can rally.

The community shall own this building. It shall be the home in which all that is best, all that makes for happiness, all that broadens and deepens life's best impressions, all that makes government stronger, men less self-centered, life sweeter, may be developed. The Hesperia movement is doing this now. The movement is not a dream, not a theory, for it has passed beyond these into reality.

SERVICE THE WATCHWORD OF PROGRESS.

What do the philanthropical library, social settlement movements, supported by the immensely rich, portend? Translated into the life of the twentieth century, they mean that there shall be no standing in the future social life of this nation for the vulgarly rich. *I serve* is the keynote of the new-old gospel. The world yearns to-day for an education of service, a religion of service, a living of service. Wherever vice, ignorance, crime predominate in communities, the cure is not for the good people to move out, but for more good people to move in. The world is coming to see that Emerson was right when he said: "A vulgar community is one whose poetry has not yet been written, but which you shall presently make as sweet as any. A social being, the normally organized man returns to society with usury the gifts wherewith he has been by society endowed." And this truth will be the starting-point of the ethical teaching of the coming years.

Personality cannot live within itself, to perish with the individual life of man. And so, little by little, age by age, society, which has created man, is by man transformed. Of supreme importance in this work is the influence of those few transcendent minds whose genius pierces the unknown; of those pioneers of thought and conduct who dare to stand alone in untrodden ways; of those devoted lovers of their kind, who, often in obloquy and pain, reveal the possibilities of a spiritual life.

It is chiefly through these that the mass of humanity is lifted in some small degree above the plane of physical necessity into the freer air of liberty and light.

ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS OF NEW YORK.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION
BY MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,
248 East 34th Street, New York.

Classes for Neighborhood Workers.

The attention of the Association of Neighborhood Workers was called in December to the need of some definite training for settlement workers, both resident and non-resident. After a good deal of discussion it was finally decided to confine our efforts this season to getting up a lecture course with class features, and a course in elementary handicrafts.

The lecture course will be given by Mr. Robert A. Woods, of the South End House, Boston, and will be held at the West Side Neighborhood House.

Morning Class, 10:30 A. M.—Tuesday, April 1; Thursday, April 3; Tuesday, April 8; Thursday, April 10; Friday, April 11; Tuesday, April 15.

Evening Class, 8 P. M. (Repetition of morning course.)—Tuesday, April 1; Thursday, April 3; Monday, April 7; Tuesday, April 8; Thursday April 10; Monday, April 14.

SYLLABUS OF COURSE.

- I. "The Weak in the Struggle."—Minimizing waste in production—The causes of poverty and pauperism and how they may be attacked—Shutting off the contagion of pauperism and degeneracy.
- II. "The Aristocracy of Labor."—How to stimulate, safeguard and provide appropriate opportunity for ability and genius—Public importance of preventing the waste of ability—Educational reform.
- III., IV., V., "The Middle Class of Labor—the Working Class Proper."—(This class is not accessible primarily by its necessities, on the one hand, nor by its ambitions, on the other. It is accessible on the basis of its loyalties.)
 - (1) Trade Unionism, (2) Socialism, (3) Politics, (4) Nationality, (5) Family and Neighborhood Ties, (6) Religion.
- VI. "The Settlement."—An instrument cleverly designed to secure access to this little-known, but vitally important social stratum. Its policy as to instituting or co-operating with organized charity (1), with educational institutions (2), with working-class organizations (3)—The new tasks which it would place upon the municipal administration—Its influence toward the reorganization of neighborhood life—Its influence toward democratic social relations throughout a city.

REFERENCES.

Mr. Woods requests all persons attending the classes to do the following reading, especially the selections marked with the asterisk:

- I. Charles Booth, "Labor and Life of the People," Vol. I. Part I.
Warner, "American Charities."
- II. Marshall "Principles of Economics," Vol. I., Part VI.
Bliss, "Encyclopædia of Social Reform."
Articles on Education, Industrial Education.
U. S. Labor Bureau, 1892, "Report on Technical Education."
- III. Hobson, "Evolution of Modern Capitalism."
Trant "Trade Unions,"
Schaffla, "Theory and Policy of Labor Protection."
- IV. Kirkup, "History of Socialism."
Russell, "German Social Democracy."
Webb, "Socialism in England."
- V. Jane Addams, "Ethical Survivals in Municipal Corruption."—International Journal of Ethics, April, 1898.
"The City Wilderness."
Albert Shaw, "Municipal Government in England—in Continental Europe."
- VI. Ruskin, "Unto This Last."
Woods, "English Social Movements," Chapter III.
Coit, "Neighborhood Guilds."
"Philanthropy and Social Progress."

THE COURSES IN ELEMENTARY HANDICRAFTS are to be given at the School of Ethical Culture, 105 West Fifty-fourth street. Ten lessons each in Basketry, Cord Work and Raffia, Bent Iron and Clay Modeling, at cost of course per person, \$6.50.

Each of the above courses will be given if six or more pupils are assured. These courses will be arranged for the afternoons, two or three lessons a week, as desired.

If these courses prove popular the association expects to enlarge the plan next season.

Child Labor.

Friends of the movement for the establishment of juvenile courts will deplore the appearance in a recent issue of the *Juvenile Record* of a leading editorial calculated to alienate the largest possible number of allies and friends of such courts.

This publication (*) flies at its masthead the assertion, "We advocate the establishment of a juvenile court in every State in the Union." It is, therefore, particularly unfortunate for it to print as a leading editorial an article offensive not alone to the trades unions the whole country over, but also to the National Consumers' League, with its many branch leagues, and to all those numerous workers in the settlements who have long been patiently striving to protect the all too brief childhood of the boys and girls of the working class.

After a few more such articles the unhappy dependent and delinquent children in whose interest

*The *Juvenile Record* is published at 25 West Twenty-fourth street, New York; 79 Dearborn street, Chicago, and in Portland, Ore.

this paper is professedly published, and who are the beneficiaries of the juvenile courts, might well pray, "Lord! Deliver us from our friends!"

The leading editorial in the February issue rests upon the brutal and belated theory that society can permit young children under the age of fourteen years to maintain adults by wage labor. A semblance of humane intent is maintained by proposing that the young victims shall be selected by a judge.

Happily, we have a warning example in the experience of Wisconsin, where the child labor law has been vitiated ever since its enactment by this odious provision. There a judge may "exempt" a child from the protection which the law affords other children, if the family is poor. No judge has time to serve as investigator of the economic conditions of hundreds of poor families, and to ascertain how far the poverty may be due to causes for which the net result is that the calendar and docket are always so crowded that the judge relies upon the deputy factory inspectors for the facts in the case. The deputy factory inspectors are thus diverted from their legitimate duty of visiting factories to the wholly irrelevant task of investigating questions of pauperism. The number of children exempted from the protection which the law should scrupulously give to the most defenseless grows constantly greater; the granting of exemption to one shiftless family becomes a reason for granting it to others.

Suburban Sanitary Inspection.

The Civic Sanitation Association of Orange, N. J., has appointed a woman sanitary inspector. Territorially the inspection will center in Orange, but embrace the adjacent districts of the Oranges. The work of the inspector will be, first, systematic investigation of sanitary conditions in the districts concerned, including attention to individual complaints and insistence upon effectual action by the local boards of health, when injurious conditions are found to exist. Second, securing the co-operation of tenants in maintaining public health by exercising their rights as citizens to demand a proper system of public sanitation by the individual care of their own premises.

The position of the inspector is unofficial and the salary is assured by private subscription. Her office will be in some central building of Orange.

The Civic Sanitation Association is an active organization of prominent residents of the Oranges.

Miss Helen Thompson, agent of the New York Charity Organization Society, and a resident of the Friendly Aid Settlement, a graduate of Vassar of the class of 1899, has been chosen to fill this position.

Barnard Sociological Club.

The interested student of sociology with leisure to continue his study after leaving college turns about in some uncertainty to know where to put his energy. The settlement offers a practical field and he eagerly embraces the opportunity to test his theories. But the settlement is a bewildering mass of needs, which offers little opportunity for anything but acting quickly and continuously. The relation of things and the broader view is so often lost to sight in the necessity of the moment.

It was somewhat with these thoughts—the search for a supplement to settlement work—that a little club of Barnard graduates was formed a year and a half ago to try, if might be, to build up a lasting organization by the undertaking of some piece of work.

For several months the members floundered about, finding invariably that the work they most wanted to do was already being done more effectively than they could do it by some other agency. The first light came when the club was allowed the privilege of sending delegates to the Association of Neighborhood Workers. Here it came in touch with all of the more important social problems of the city. Finally a plan was suggested by the president of the association which seemed eminently suitable for the club members to undertake. This was the bringing out of a guide to the social activities of Greater New York—not a duplicate in any way of the Charities Directory, but a readable description of what typical social activities may be seen in New York and how and when to see them. This handbook would address itself especially to strangers coming to New York and anxious to see something besides the theaters, desirous of getting an insight into the various church, school, and settlement activities and to see something of the way in which the city cares for its sick and its mentally and morally defective.

This "Social Baedeker" would describe, for instance, what could be seen at some large settlement on one of the evenings when things were "in full swing," and what other places of interest in the neighborhood might easily be visited the same evening. Such a guide the Barnard Sociological Club hopes to bring out in the coming year. A book of this nature would of necessity require frequent re-editing, but this would be a small matter.

We have dwelt at some length upon this undertaking because it seemed not unlikely that there might be other groups of students in other cities who might find such an undertaking extremely useful. As for the persons engaged in such a work, it would be hard to overestimate its value.

as a means of placing them in immediate touch with the resources of their own city.

CERISE CARMAN.

New York Labor Notes.

TWO BAD LABOR LAW AMENDMENTS.

For three weeks past a strong effort has been on foot to stop the passage of two very objectionable amendments to the New York labor law. One, and the most serious, is a Senate bill introduced by Mr. Marshall in the interests of candy manufacturers, which would free women over twenty-one years of age from any limitation of the hours of their work in factories. The attorney who drafted the bill and others interested in it state that it was not meant to increase the hours of labor, but merely to allow women to work by night or by day within the ten hours a day at present allowed by law. Whether those concerned were really unable to see the effect that would be produced by their very clearly worded bill or whether they were desirous of withdrawing with some pretense at decent intentions it is impossible to say. Protests were sent to all the members of the committee that had the matter in charge, and, through many prominent individuals and through the settlements, to individual members of the Senate and the Assembly. The labor people were also stirred up in the matter, and sufficient pressure was brought to bear within a week of the time it was taken in hand, to cause the passage of a motion to reconsider the bill on the day after it was passed by a unanimous vote of the Senate. The motion was tabled, and the chances are that it will not come up again; but if it does, it will only be defeated, as we are most definitely assured by Senator Grady, who entered the motion to reconsider. It was most astonishing that neither the labor people nor those persons interested in the conditions of working had any knowledge that such a bill was on the stocks until it was taken up by the Consumers' League nearly a fortnight after the bill was referred to the committee. The newspapers took the matter up with warmth and nearly all gave space to the objections to such a bill, which would have put New York far behind in its factory legislation and have left us where we were before the laws of 1899.

The other bill attacked was introduced in the Assembly by Mr. Fowler, and simply removed all butter and cheese factories from the category of factories, thus freeing them from all factory inspection whatever. It is not likely that a bill so obviously drawn in the interest of a special industry would be allowed to pass when once attention has been drawn to it. The replies made to the protests against this bill have, however, been

most amusing. The chairman of the committee has written in the most patronizing style that he has no doubt the worthy ladies know a great deal about city conditions and needs, but that butter and cheese factories are to be understood only by those born and brought up in the country, as is the case with himself. He evidently thinks the protest made is purely on account of the women and children, and states definitely that none are employed and that the reason for the proposed bill is that the milk *must* come in early from the farms, so that it is absolutely necessary to open the factories before 6 o'clock. Unfortunately for his case, he overlooks the fact that even city-bred people may be familiar with the labor law and know that if his statement is true that no women or children are employed, nothing in the law would prevent his opening his factories at any hour he pleases or running them day and night. Also, unfortunately for his cause, in his desire to emphasize his right to be accepted as an authority in the matter he inadvertently states that he is personally the treasurer of a cheese factory, which seems to vitiate his value as an unprejudiced witness. The proposer of the bill is equally ingenious and more logical in his statement, made more than once, that the factory inspectors are a great nuisance, coming around all the time and making them do unnecessary things, and that they are going to get rid of them. As a matter of fact, if the factories employ no women and children, the only effect of the factory law upon them is to insure to the employees proper protection against fire and accident and to enforce proper sanitary conditions. We are given to understand that this bill, too, has been practically disabled.

SUSAN WALKER FITZGERALD.

Tree-Planting in New York.

The treelessness of New York has been noted by almost everyone who has seen its streets.

The writer well remembers the picture, seen years ago in an old magazine, of the proud East Side boy "who knew where there was a tree."

He also knows of an old up-state Methodist preacher who had been sent to New York by his church to work in the West Side tenements. He had been married over fifty years ago underneath a bough of apple blossoms, and had never failed to bring to his wife each year the very first blossoms he had seen. He moved to New York, and, having no trees in sight, went to the country at the time he felt that the blossoms had come, only to find apples half an inch in diameter. When he was mildly derided for not knowing when the apple trees bloomed, he said: "How could I know

that it was spring here in New York? The only thing I had to guide me was the way my feet felt."

To give people some other way of knowing that spring has come there has recently been formed, under the auspices of the Tree-Planting Association, a special department known as the Tenement District Shade Tree Committee.

The leading spirit in the movement has been Mr. Datus C. Smith, the chairman.

At the outset the committee was told that trees would not grow in New York streets, but this objection was overcome by pointing to the fact that at least a few trees did live.

Then, having located such trees, their species and surroundings were carefully noted, and a decision was reached as to what kind of trees should be planted and how the planting should be done.

On these points the opinions of experts in the Department of Agriculture were obtained.

This spring the committee will content itself with planting about fifty trees in front of churches and settlements in the tenement regions.

Next year, however, there will be a movement to secure the consent of property holders on entire blocks, so that instead of a tree here and there, whole rows of trees will adorn "the brick-walled streets."

ARCHIBALD HILL.

(NOTE.—Mr. Siebrecht, who has planted many trees for the association, recommends the North Carolina poplar, the German linden, and the soft-wood varieties of maples as the best trees for city planting. The cost of planting the trees in New York ranges from \$10 to \$20.—Ed.)

New Neighborhood Club.

A Neighborhood Club has been formed on the Middle East Side, which meets at the home of the secretary, Mrs. Herbert Parsons, 112 East Thirty-fifth street.

The object of this club is to co-operate with the forces working in the interest of the neighborhood, which is a singularly varied one, extending from Fifth avenue on one side to East River on the other. The plan of the club is to have three reports at each meeting. At the first meeting reports were made on the Tree-Planting Association, the new Kip's Bay Nursery and the Seventh District of the Charity Organization Society. Any neighbor is eligible to membership, but is expected to show some practical interest in some one of the organizations or activities engaged in neighborhood improvement. The organizations represented in the membership include the churches, schools, clubs, settlements, charities, nur-

series, etc., as well as the local work of such general societies as the Consumers' League and the Woman's Municipal League.

The City Club.

"The City Club of New York has for ten years stood for the conviction that the government of the city must be separated at all points from national party politics. Its constitution requires that it shall take no part in State or national politics, except so far as the interests of the City of New York may be involved in the election of the two branches of the State Legislature and the passage of State laws."

As a result of this position, consistently maintained, the City Club has been the starting place of much non-partisan and effective work for the betterment of municipal conditions. The Citizens' Union, which now represents the idea that municipal administration is business and not politics, and which now constitutes an independent party, with a place of its own upon the ballot, had its origin in the City Club, and its most active workers are members of both organizations. The practical working of the club appears under various aspects. One of its essential committees is the Committee on Legislation, which restricts its inquiry to legislation which affects the City of New York. This committee of some twelve members receives directly from its agent in Albany every bill which affects the municipality in any way. These bills are distributed from the office of the secretary of the club to that sub-committee of the Legislation Committee to which has been assigned the department to which they belong; as, for instance, tenement houses, franchises, and other significant divisions of the general subject. At its weekly meetings the committee hears a report from its sub-committees, opposes or approves the bills, and if the matter is of signal importance places a printed statement of the City Club's attitude, through this committee, in the hands of every member of the Legislature, the newspaper representatives at Albany, and the heads of departments in the City of New York. So valuable has this work been found that during the administration of Governor Roosevelt public acknowledgment was made by him of the influence exerted by the City Club in discriminating between good measures and bad and in keeping a watch upon legislative procedure.

The City Club, through its Municipal Government Committee, takes up grievances and matters of local importance which arise in the ordinary process of municipal administration. It originally brought the charges against the District Attorney of the County of New York upon which, through a long series of weeks, hearings were held before

a commissioner appointed by the Governor. Although the incumbent of that powerful office was not removed upon the charges made by the City Club's committee, it has been generally conceded that his subsequent removal was made possible by its exhibit of the administration of the office. The club thus becomes a powerful ally for municipal administration when it is conserving the interests of the city, and a critic and opposing force to such administration when the city's interests are disregarded.

When the Ramapo water deal was only delayed by the single vote of the Comptroller of the City of New York in the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the city was by this single vote saved temporarily from committing itself to an extent of two hundred million dollars upon an impossible proposition, it was the City Club which first came to the reinforcement of the Comptroller in his opposition to this nefarious scheme. The club had already made careful inquiry into the water waste in the City of New York and had printed a report upon the matter. The Merchants' Association made an invaluable report upon the same subject later on, which resulted in the killing of the Ramapo scheme; but an examination of the lists of both organizations will show that the same public-spirited citizens were active in this matter, and constitute, whether in one association or another, whether in the City or the Reform Club, the body of loyal, chivalrous, and disinterested citizens who have made possible the rescue of the City of New York from the Tammany rule of the past four years.

The City Club is not simply a political club with a permanent headquarters, but it is also a social club, distinguished from other social clubs by the fact that it is organized round an idea. It is assumed that every man who comes into it is interested in the discrimination of the interests of the city from partisan interests. The result is that many young men who are just beginning to feel the value of citizenship and its responsibilities are found working side by side with such veterans of New York political life as Wheeler H. Peckham, John E. Parsons, R. Fulton Cutting, and others whose names appear as the vanguard of every advance movement for the betterment of conditions in New York. So completely is the matter of party allegiance subordinated to the interests of the city itself that it often happens in the work of a committee that the chairman of the committee does not know the party to which the members of his committee severally belong, and has been able to make the best possible answer to a charge of party motive by polling his committee when

such a charge has been made and finding that the majority occupied a position temporarily opposed to that which the charge covered.

The club is about to build for itself a beautiful new clubhouse in the club center of New York, on Forty-fourth street, near Fifth avenue, and has every prospect of moving into its new quarters within a few months, with a membership of 800 men devoted to the interests for which the club stands. It is proposed to secure in addition a large non-resident membership, which will, for the City Club, as has been the case with the Reform Club, establish sympathetic relations with many centers where is presented the same problem of the separation of municipal from partisan issues. As Lord Rosebery pointed out in a recent address, and as every worker in municipal politics is convinced, the municipality is the real center of power in a government such as ours, and presents a field of study of absorbing interest and of growing importance. It may be that the multiplication of such clubs as the City Club in the cities of the country will hasten the time when politics shall take its proper place as a science worthy of the attention of the intelligent, rather than as a game played by the designing upon the stupid.

THOMAS R. SLICER.

The Association of Organized Work with Boys announces a public conference on "Summer Camps and Outings for Boys" for Tuesday evening, April 8. In addition to the program an exhibit of photographs, printed matter, and equipment illustrating camp work will be given. Inquiries for particulars as to place and other details should be addressed to Dr. Elias G. Brown, 481 West 145th St., New York City.

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COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

President: KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.
Vice President: MARY K. SIMKHOVITCH (Mrs. Vladimir G. Simkhovitch), 248 East 34th St., New York City.

Secretary: MABEL GAIR CURTIS, 829 Boylston St., Boston.

Treasurer: ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 35th St., New York City.

Fifth Member: HELEN ANNAN SCRIBNER (Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner), 10 West 43d St., New York City.

SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.
Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.
Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

RESIDENTS OF COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS.

At the meeting of the College Settlements Association, Oct. 12, 1901, Mrs. Helen Annan Scribner, a member of the executive committee, read a paper on "Residents of College Settlements." It was afterwards printed in the annual report. Her words are so interesting and suggestive that we have thought that it might not be amiss to pass them on to an enlarged circle of readers. Accordingly the following condensation is here presented:

"The head worker and the residents have been and always will be the main spring of the settlement, and it is through their inspiration that the settlement work lives.

"It has seemed wise to attempt to muster our forces to find out if possible how many have dropped from our ranks. We all know how difficult it is to measure and value an experience in our own lives at any time, how impossible it is to measure it when it is near at hand, but how sometimes when we obtain the proper focus through the lapse of years, we can see and understand more clearly. So it has seemed that possibly former residents would have some message to send across the decade to those doing settlement work now or taking it up for the first time; or in other words, that the past experience might enlighten the present.

"Unfortunately it has not been easy to reach all the former residents.

"Nevertheless, however imperfect the results I have to offer may be as scientific data, I think you will agree that they are of interest.

"In looking over the file of reports in an attempt to gain some objective view of the development of the settlement movement, it seemed to me that the ebb and flow of workers in our settlements as shown in the lists of residents was suggestive. The small number of pioneers, the rapid increase in the number of those seeking residence in the third and fourth years—the third report giving 80 as the number of applications for residence in one settlement during the year—the gradual loss of undesirable notoriety and corresponding gain in solidity and strength, shown forcibly in the decrease of the number of applications and the increase in the number of permanent workers—20 being now regarded as large for the yearly number of applicants—these superficial signs help us to realize that the settlement movement has passed through phases that have tested its strength. To emerge an accepted and potent factor in our social life.

"Of the 169 residents that have sent replies to a circular sent to all whose addresses could be obtained, 100, or nearly 60 per cent were college women.

"Out of 169, 50, or over 29 per cent, have lived in more than one settlement, and the records range from residence in two settlements to the record of one resident, a former 'scholar,' who has spent from six months to a year and a half in six different settlements. This, it seems to me, shows an encouraging vitality and flexibility in the settlement life, provided of course that the term of residence in each settlement does not become increasingly short, of which I think there appears to be no danger. And naturally those who become permanent settlement workers eventually remain in one chosen settlement, and their experience in other settlements cannot fail to be of value.

"According to the answers given in response to the question, 'What is your present occupation?' we learn that of former residents 37 are teachers, 3 being college professors, 6 are physicians, 4 are nurses, 27 are occupied in home duties, 26 have no occupation, and 29 form a miscellaneous group.

"One resident has given us the curious bit of information that in certain occupations the fact of having lived at a settlement is a powerful recommendation, though many employers do not know what it means. Further:

"Forty-four are occupied in philanthropic or settlement work, and 37 are, in addition to other occupations, doing philanthropic work, or are in touch with settlement work, making a total number of 81, or nearly 48 per cent, that since their first residence have continued the work begun in

the settlements. Of this number 23 have held the position of head worker, of whom 15 at present are head workers.

"Bearing in mind for the moment how diverse the lives of our residents have been since first living in a settlement, their testimony to the value of their settlement experience in its influence on their subsequent work will be of interest. Of the total number, 169, only 2 answered negatively, 9 were doubtful, 44 left the question unanswered, and of these many were women at present engaged in settlement work, and therefore unable to measure the value of the experience on subsequent work; 114, or over 67 per cent, answered in the affirmative, rendering the 'yes' emphatic in the majority of cases by some such expression as 'decidedly.' One hundred and six expressed a wish to live again at a settlement, but of these 44 did not plan to do so. Sixty-three, or nearly 37 per cent, however, stated that they definitely planned to live again at a settlement.

"In view of the interest that is being taken at present in the effort made to connect the theoretical work in the colleges in economics and sociology with the practical work of the settlements, it has seemed well to inquire if many of our residents have done work in these studies.

"Of the total number, 169, 40 answered 'no,' 19 left the question unanswered, 110 answered in the affirmative, and this number includes all those that have mentioned some reading as the extent of their study. Of these 110, 34 may be eliminated as having by their own statement given too superficial attention to the study for their opinion to be of statistical value. This leaves 76, or about 45 per cent, as the number that have carried on some study in one or both of these branches systematically, either through independent reading or through courses in college. Of these, 56 are of the opinion that settlement work is helpful in these branches of study, many expressing themselves emphatically, saying 'settlement work is a necessary part of the study,' 'very helpful,' etc. Nineteen, however, gave no opinion, and one answered negatively.

"On the other hand, of the 76 that have carried on some systematic study in sociology or economics 44 were of the opinion that the study was definitely helpful in settlement work—one adding that it was 'subjectively helpful,' others that it was 'helpful in shaping the work,' that it was helpful as a 'question raiser,' that it was 'helpful in giving proportion to settlement experience.' Twenty-one gave no opinion, 2 believed the value indirect, and 9 gave a negative opinion.

"Making allowance for cases where the study

was carried on subsequent to residence in a settlement, so that it was impossible to express an opinion as to the value of such study in settlement work, nevertheless there is undoubtedly evident some uncertainty as to the practical value of such study. Personally, I have little sympathy with such a feeling, but there is this much to be said in answer to this expression of uncertainty: We know that it is only within the last few years that in the academic courses in sociology and economics the study had been extended in its practical work beyond the classroom.

"Many of our residents in the past have not had the benefit of this broader method of study. As to the feeling expressed on the part of a few that the academic mind is often a hindrance in the formation of friendships and in the practical everyday life of the settlements, it seems to me we must answer that such a result is the fault, not of the academy or college, but of the mind that lacks flexibility and adaptability in using the knowledge it has acquired. As our headworkers have so often said, the value of a resident, as the value of any individual in any sphere of life, depends in the last analysis upon force of personality. And that sociology itself teaches.

"It is only fair to add, however, that when the number of those that have been students of economics and sociology has been narrowed down to the select few that have lived longest in the settlements, and at the same time have carried their studies the furthest, they agree unanimously as to the interdependence and supplementary value of settlement work and economic and social studies.

"It is estimated that from 1,000 to 1,400 people come to a settlement in an average week. Whether or not such knowledge is to be turned to account in any special line of study, will naturally depend upon the choice of the individual, but that it is infinitely broadening and enlightening to the correct and intelligent living of the average life will be admitted, I think, by all.

"And it is this idea expressed in various ways that has been given most generally in answer to the question, 'In what respect has your experience at a settlement been most valuable?' One resident writes that 'the settlement experience was of more value educationally than any year at college.' Another says that the value is 'to help gain normal estimates and proper proportions.' Another resident writes that it has been most valuable 'in the broader understanding of life and its meaning. I look back upon the two years and more that I spent in a settlement as the happiest and most satisfactory years of my life.'

"As Miss Addams has so adequately expressed it, ' * * we grow more and more discontented with a mere intellectual apprehension, and wish to move forward from a limited and, therefore, obscure understanding of life to a larger and more embracing one, not only with our minds but with all our powers of life.'

"That many have attained this, according to their own testimony, through settlements it is gratifying to learn, for though we know well that sacrifice is the fundamental law of life, and that no man entirely escapes it, we also know, however paradoxical it may seem, that the man or woman who is to continue to be of benefit to his fellowmen must move forward in self-development as well, for in life there is no standing still."

The Consumers' League in the Colleges.

It is interesting to notice the strongholds which Mrs. Kelley is making for the Consumers' League. On January 20 she spoke at Wellesley College. Mr. John Cummings read a paper treating of the sweat-shop-question from an economic standpoint. Mr. Morris Rosenfeld read some of his poems, which were written while he was a worker in a sweat-shop in New York's Ghetto. Mr. Wiener, of Harvard University, introduced Mr. Rosenfeld. On January 31 and February 1 there was an exhibit of goods, bearing the Consumers' League label, in the Phi-Sigma Society house.

A Social Gospel from a Swedish Homestead.

We would call attention to a book entitled "From a Swedish Homestead," by Selma Lagerlaf, translated by Jessie Brochner and published by McClure, Phillips & Co., 1901. The simple, child-like, vital religion of such stories as "Our Lord and St. Peter," "The Peace of God," is both refreshing and inspiring. "The Empress' Money Chest" is a sermon preached before a body of workmen who were in the midst of a strike, and who were quite willing to hear the Rev. Father provided he would not mention the name of God. The entire collection, whether dealing with so-called secular or religious topics, is quaint, unique and forceful.

"I believe that the great men don't change. Away with your Napoleons and your Marlboroughs and your Stuarts. These are the days of simple men who command by force of character as well as knowledge. Thank God for the American! I believe that he will change the world and strip it of its vain glory and hypocrisy." Winston Churchill, of Abraham Lincoln in "The Crisis."

THE WORLD AS SEEN THROUGH OUR SMOKE AND DUST.

BY JENNIE MOTCH, A YOUTHFUL RUSSIAN SEER-SINGER DWELLING AMONG US.

The world is beautiful and fair;
Though there be troubles, evils there.
A goodly part of it is sad,
And just as much of it is bad;
The greatest part, though's full of beauty,
For there's the sense of love and duty.
There's death and sickness, evil passions,
Injustice, falsehood and oppression;
But there is life and light and reason,
The change of Nature every season,
And, even if darkness comes with night,
The sun is there to bring back light.
And what if people sometimes err,
Their conscience prompts them to forbear.
When measured, good is more than bad;
And this alone should make us glad.
If there be still the wrong of yore,
The right is gaining more and more,
The future tempts us to progress,
The ignorance is growing less,
And day by day we come to learn
That what we want we have to earn.
Not money earning do I mean,
But raising our pure selves within;
And when the soul within is pure,
For the sore outside there's a cure.
Self-preservation, sparing others,
And holding mankind sisters, brothers,
The chance for deeds of love and duty,
Is one that fills the world with beauty.

JENNIE MOTCH.

412 W. North Ave.

LAWN SWINGS

MAY POLES

W. S. TOTHILL

Manufacturer

Play Ground, Park, Gymnasium and Athletic Field Equipments. Write for anything you want.

126-128 West Webster Avenue, CHICAGO, ILL.

The Church in Social Reforms

By Graham Taylor. An Address and Discussion at the International Congregational Council in Boston, 1899. Twenty-five Cents.

PESTALOZZI-FROEBEL,

Kindergarten Training School at Chicago Commons.

Two years' course in Kindergarten Theory and Practice. A course in home making. Industrial and Social Development emphasized. Includes opportunity to become familiar with Social Settlement Work. For circulars and particulars, address

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The Commons.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, Editor.

Entered at Chicago Post Office as Second-Class Matter, and Published the first of every month from CHICAGO COMMONS, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.



EDITORIAL.

THE ALDERMANIC ELECTION IN CHICAGO.

For the seventh year the Municipal Voters' League was in the field, but this spring the earlier and stronger for having kept its offices open and its force at work all winter. It was thus in position to influence the party nominations more effectively than ever before. The result is apparent in an increased number of good nominees, especially in wards which needed this help to avoid the scandalous nominations which the party machines have been accustomed to foist upon them. It has a great record to show for its small investment of money and its large expenditures in volunteer work. Seven years ago not one-third of the City Council were even suspected of being in it to serve public interests. Now not one-third of the aldermen are suspected of holding office for personal gain, or of promoting private interests at public expense. The League's ante-election charge to its great jury, in view of the traction and other incalculably important interests involved, puts the case just as it stands:

"The city is to be congratulated upon the continuing improvement in the quality of aldermanic candidates and upon the increasing dignity and power for good of the City Council. With each successive campaign the thinned ranks of the old disreputables are materially reduced. Ward after ward is being redeemed from the 'hopeless' column.

"A few more years of struggle will see the extermination of the race of aldermanic boodlers. Cut off from their base of illegitimate supplies by the non-partisan organization of the Council committees they cannot stand against a relentless, persistent war year after year. As the last strongholds of the gang are being stormed the fight is waxing fiercer; and at this election, with few exceptions, the discredited survivors of a once defiant majority are fighting desperately with their backs against the wall.

"Whether this question is to be settled wisely and fairly for all the great public and corporate interests involved depends upon this election. Upon

it especially depends the preservation of the people's rights and in large measure the future of Chicago. Whether in indorsing the upright or in rebuking the unfit, whether the situation in any ward appears critical or not, the value to the community of every vote should now be felt. No man holding lightly his privilege and his duty at this juncture is worthy of his citizenship."

The returns as we go to press show the election of 28 candidates endorsed by the League, and the success of only eight whom it condemned. In the new council there will be 55 members approved by the League and 15 who are there against its protest.

In our Seventeenth Ward, the better element in the Democratic party, backed by the joint action of the Municipal Voters' League and the Community Club of Chicago Commons, were able to furnish and nominate as good a candidate as the ward ever had the privilege of voting for. This cheering result is for a second time due to the co-operation of these two non-partisan organizations. Last year our Republican alderman, John F. Smulski, began his able and honorable career in the City Council with the majority of nearly 1,300 votes, when his ward gave the Democratic mayor a majority of over 608 votes. This year our Democratic candidate, Mr. Wm. E. Dever, overcame this aldermanic majority, being elected over his Republican "gang" competitor by 1,819 votes.

In these encouraging results we are beginning to reap the advantage of having a permanent civic center at the settlement, manned by a non-partisan social and political club of both older and younger men whose rooms are always open and whose organization is continuous and ever ready at hand for loyal civic service.

The referendum vote in Chicago's municipal election for municipal ownership of street railways was 124,594 in favor and 25,987 against the proposition, the proportion being substantially the same on the lighting plants. For direct nominations at primary elections 125,082 were cast in favor and 15,861 to the contrary.

FALLEN IN THE FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY.

Chicago has lost two men of heroic mold, Francis W. Parker and John P. Altgeld. Very different in temperament, method and sphere, they alike had convictions and the courage of them, in the face of whatever opposition or criticism they had to

meet. However faulty in judgment they may both be conceded to have been, no man who knew either of them for a moment doubted their sincerity, or their willingness to suffer personal loss and to dare the disaster of temporary defeat in his cause, which each believed would triumph in the end. Both were intensely democratic in spirit and aim; the teacher making his school a little community of interdependent equals, the politician ruling party and state by and for the majority of the mass. Both were intolerantly, and to a fault, disrespectful and iconoclastic toward mere conventionalism, and that conservation which is conservative for the sake of conservatism.

In their dramatically strenuous struggle for their ideals they each appealed to the loyalty of the common people. From the people came the support which kept Colonel Parker in his place at the Cook County Normal School for seventeen years, in every one of which the most determined official effort was made to dispossess him. The hearts of the common people never failed to respond to Altgeld, their unfailing friend and advocate, however they withheld their approval of some of his acts, or at times their support at the polls. Again and again they rallied to him and greeted his public utterances with something of the same unanimity with which they elected him Governor of Illinois. At their death, friends and opponents, followers and dissenters, vied with each other in personal and public recognition of that heroic devotion to high ideals of democracy which distinguished the one as an educator and the other as a politician.

Stricken while eloquently defending the forlorn hope of the South African Republics, Mr. Altgeld was followed to his grave by thousands of men representing bench and bar, trade and craft, turn-overs and labor unions, poor and rich, foreigners and native-born, radicals and conservatives, while from utterances as extreme as Clarence Darrow's and from words as sound and sweet as Jane Addams' the last tribute of the people's devotion fell upon his funeral bier.

From eastern universities and the national capital, from western colleges and teachers' associations, from the academic cloister, Jewish synagogues and Christian churches, tokens of highest recognition and tenderest devotion fell as thick and fast upon Colonel Parker's casket as the flowers from the hands of school children, which buried their friend and "emancipator" from their sight. The "school of education," which Mrs. Emmons Blaine founded at the University of Chicago in devotion to his educational ideals and to give him the untrammelled opportunity to realize them, will stand as the very arch of Francis W. Parker's tri-

umph. His death at the first flush of his victory, and so shortly before he could have left the impress of his genius upon the outer and inner structure of the great school, falls nothing short of a tragedy. Loyalty to his lifework, as well as to the generous hand which together gave it being, cannot fail to make the School of Education incarnate and perpetuate the spirit of Francis W. Parker. Meanwhile parents of some of the children he taught, and teachers whom he trained, have united to make the "Francis W. Parker School" on the North Side of the city, worthy of the name and memory of its founder.

Our readers will await the next issue of the Commons in May with special interest when they learn that it will be largely devoted to an illustrated description of the Hull House Labor Museum. No more uniquely constructive and fascinating feature has ever characterized settlement work than this highly original project of Miss Addams, which is appealing as powerfully to other people's interest as it does to her own social imagination. Her forth-coming volume from the Macmillan press on "Democracy and Social Ethics" is anticipated with keen pleasure by all who know of her personal contribution both to the ideal and practice of democracy.

Two small volumes of large import demand at least editorial mention, in lieu of the extended review of them, which must be reserved for our next issue. Mr. Charles Mulford Robinson, member of the Architectural League of America's National Committee on Municipal Improvements, has furnished a rarely suggestive and comprehensive handbook entitled "The Improvement of Towns and Cities; or the Practical Basis of Civic Aesthetics" (G. B. Putnam's Sons). The volume cannot fail to be of the most inspirational and practical sort of help in stimulating and guiding the everywhere increasing interest and activity in the enrichment and beautifying of city and town life.

"The American Farmer" is all the more interesting because written by an avowed socialist for the "Standard Socialist Series" published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago. Its author, Mr. A. M. Simons, combines with his social idealism not only practical experience in farm life and work, but industrious research in the economic and social literature of agriculture. Mr. Simons, who is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, is editor of the International Socialist Review, and is also engaged in work upon agricultural industries for "The Economic Year Book" and its bulletins, now being prepared under the supervision of William English Walling and John R. Commons. (Bliss Building, Washington, D. C.)

THE MONTH AT CHICAGO COMMONS.

The event of the month has been the vigorous and effective campaign waged in ward politics by our Seventeenth Ward Community Club. It was the most potent force in defeating our old "gang" alderman and electing the honorable and capable workingman lawyer, William E. Dever, as the Democratic associate of the forceful and aggressively honest Republican alderman, John F. Smulski, who last year owed his nomination and, in no small part, his election to this club. We began early by trying to influence the nomination. The "First Gun of the Campaign" was fired from our auditorium. Campaign literature was devised, addressed and mailed to thousands of voters in several languages. The club marched in a body, headed by its transparency, from its rooms in the settlement to the halls where from eight hundred to a thousand men were gathered at a time. Small groups and individuals were visited. Speakers from the settlement, the club and their friends outside the ward were sent forth nightly. The appeal throughout was made straight to the conscience and civic patriotism of the most cosmopolitan population in the city. In response to the announcement "Election Returns Received Here," "Everybody Invited—Refreshments Served" the club and many other citizens had the satisfaction of congratulating each other, their ward and the city upon the triumph of their non-partisan and patriotic co-operation.

Mr. Raymond Robins of Chicago Commons has been chosen to succeed Mr. Robert Hunter in the superintendency of the Municipal Lodging House of the City of Chicago, which the latter leaves to take the head-worksanship of the University Settlement of New York City. Mr. Robins brings to his important work the training of a lawyer and a varied experience in municipal affairs at San Francisco. His share in bringing order and law out of the chaos from which the mining camp at Nome, Alaska, developed into a city, also fitted him to bring system out of Chicago's demoralizing and vacillating policy in dealing with hordes of homeless men. Equipped with adequate and sanitary dormitories and backed by police power, the new municipal lodging house is amply justifying its establishment under the joint action of the city administration and the City Homes' Association.

Married.

Rawson—Clawson. At Chicago Commons, March 20th, by Rev. James Mullenbach, Dr. Vance Rawson to Miss Carrie Clawson.

At home, 639 Washington boulevard, Chicago.

For Our Summer Campaign.

To open our little playground to the hundreds of children who are waiting for their right to play in it we need the assurance at once of the incidental expense involved in keeping it open. Including the constant service of a director of play, it will cost to maintain our playground only thirty-five or forty dollars per month. No one who knows our ward and its children will begrudge this investment, especially in view of the influence our settlement playgrounds are having in securing the small parks and municipal playgrounds in the densely populated districts of Chicago. Who will help right away?

BOYS AND GIRLS CAMP IN THE PENNY MEADOW
AT ELGIN.

We are glad to announce to our neighbors and outside friends that the beautiful Penny Meadow at Elgin, Ill., has for the fourth season been placed at the disposal of Chicago Commons for its Boys and Girls' Camp. Our equipment provides good shelter for fifty boys or girls at a time. Including transportation, thirty-six miles and return, it costs only two dollars to give each boy or girl a two weeks' share of summer sunshine, fresh air and free life at Camp. Additional to what the children can pay, we need at least \$600 to maintain Camp Commons, and \$400 more for day outings to the parks and suburbs and for the transportation of women and children to the country homes that are opening to them.

The residents and many of the clubs and classes of Chicago Commons will be at home to their friends May 8th and 9th, afternoon and evening, to exhibit the winter's work in Kindergarten, Manual Training, Cooking, Carpet-weaving, Gymnasium, Fine Art and Educational Classes; thus also showing the new building equipment in actual operation.

The Commons

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